within the region as well as across the regions with reliability, security and economy.

(c) The employees engaged in the transmission and associated works who have exercised irrevocable option for their transfer from NEEPCO to NPTC have been transferred to NPTC.

(d) No, Sir.

**Kachchh Tidal Power Project**

2765. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kachchh Tidal Power Project has been mooted and approved by Government; if so, when;

(b) what is the original estimate of the project and what is the schedule of its completion; and

(c) what is the present position of the project stating the reasons for delay in its being taking up and the estimated cost anticipated to rise by the time the project is taken up for implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The feasibility report for the Kachchh Tidal Power Project was first prepared in 1988. Subsequently, some additional investigations/studies were carried out and a supplementary feasibility report has been prepared in September, 1991. The project is to be posed by the national Hydro-electric Power Corporation for accord of techno-economic clearance by CEA.

(b) As per the original estimate given in the feasibility report in 1988, the cost of the project was estimated to be Rs. 1369.61 crores (including transmission system). The project was scheduled to be completed in 7 years from the date of commencement of work.

(c) The project proposal, based on the feasibility report prepared by Central Electricity Authority, is being processed by NHPC for being posed for accord of techno-economic clearance by CEA. Since this was the first project of its kind to be investigated in India, and the investigations/studies were complex in nature, these took a long time for completion. The latest estimated cost of the project is Rs. 2955.06 crores (including transmission system) at December, 1990 price level.

**Power Shortage After Eighth Plan**

2766. KUMARI CHANDRIKA PREMJI KENIA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the Business and Political Observer of the 9th November, 1991, regarding continuance of power shortage even after the Eighth Plan; and

(b) if so, what remedial steps Government propose to take to overcome the difficulties in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Given the financial and other constraints, it would not be possible to totally climinate power shortages by the end of the 8th Five Year Plan.

**Number of Power Projects Approved for Uttar Pradesh**

2767. SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of power projects approved for Uttar Pradesh during last two years; and